**Claims**

What is claimed is:

1. A television apparatus comprising:

a housing;

a controller contained in the housing and operative to provide control of the television apparatus;

a front panel array on an exterior of the housing and connected to the controller; and

a lighting device situated on the exterior of the housing and illuminating the front panel array, the lighting device connected to the controller and operative in conjunction with the controller to provide a plurality of illumination intensity levels.

2. The television apparatus of claim 1, wherein the lighting device comprises a light device connected to lighting circuitry that is connected to the controller via a single wire.

3. The television apparatus of claim 2, wherein the light device comprises a diode and a light pipe.

4. The television apparatus of claim 3, wherein said diode comprises a blue LED.

5. The television apparatus of claim 1, wherein said controller is operative to provide an on-screen light intensity menu that allows a user to select a level of

illumination intensity of the lighting device from the plurality of illumination intensity levels.

6. The television apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a single wire for driving the front panel array and for detecting presence of the lighting device.

7. A television apparatus comprising:

a housing;

means, situated in the housing, for controlling the television apparatus;

front panel array means, situated on an exterior of the housing and connected to the controlling means, for providing access to features and/or functions of the television apparatus to a user; and

means, situated on the exterior of the housing and connected to the controlling means, for illuminating the front panel array in one of a plurality of illumination intensity levels.

8. The television apparatus of claim 7, wherein the illumination means comprises means for providing light connected to lighting circuitry that is connected to the control means via a single wire.

9. The television apparatus of claim 8, wherein the illumination means comprises a diode and a light pipe.

10. The television apparatus of claim 9, wherein said diode comprises a blue LED.

11. The television apparatus of claim 7, wherein said control means is operative to provide an on-screen light intensity menu that allows a user to select a level of illumination intensity of the illumination means from the plurality of illumination intensity levels.

12. The television apparatus of claim 7, wherein said controlling means drives the front panel array means using a single wire, which is also used by the controlling means to detect presence of the illuminating means.

13. A method of providing a variable intensity light for a front panel array of a television apparatus comprising the steps of:

providing a lighting device on a television apparatus, the lighting device operative to illuminate a front panel array of the television apparatus;

detecting the presence of the lighting device upon initial startup of the television apparatus; and

providing a light control menu to an on-screen control menu of the television apparatus when the lighting device has been detected, the light control menu allowing a user to select one of a plurality of light illumination intensity levels for the lighting device.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of providing a lighting device includes providing a lighting device comprising a light and light circuitry.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the steps of detecting the presence of the lighting device upon initial startup of the television apparatus and the step of providing a light control menu to an on-screen control menu of the television apparatus when the lighting device has been detected each are accomplished via a single wire connection between the lighting device and a controller of the television apparatus.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the detecting step uses a single wire, which is also served as a keyboard drive line for the front panel array.